AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. – 6. (cancelled).

7. (currently amended) A method of preparing a composition of matter comprising polyethersilicone by reacting a polyether having an unsaturated bond at an end thereof with a hydrogensilicone in the presence of a noble metal catalyst, the method comprising the steps of:

reacting a polyether represented by the following formula (3) or (4) with a hydrogensilicone,

$$C_aH_{2a-1}O(C_2H_4O)_bR \qquad (3)$$

wherein a is 3 or 4, b is an integer of from 1 to 3, and R is a CH_3 group or a C_2H_5 group,

$$CH_2{=}C(CH_3)CH_2O\ (C_2H_4O)_cR \qquad (4)$$

wherein c is an integer of from 1 to 6, and R is a CH_3 group or a C_2H_5 group, and

subjecting the reaction mixture to vacuum distillation to distill off unreacted polyether, without treating the unreacted polyether with water or with an aqueous solution of pH no greater than 7 or with an acidic substance before the vacuum distillation,

to thereby attain ~~thereby attaining~~ a weight ratio in said composition of matter, determined by H-NMR, of the polyether which has not been reacted with the hydrogensilicone to the starting polyether of 8 % or less.

8. (new) The method of claim 7, wherein at the polyethersilicone has a viscosity at 25°C of from 1 to 20 mm^2/s.

9. (new) A solvent for an electrolytic solution comprising the composition prepared by the method of claim 7.